

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete list of the claims. This listing replaces all earlier versions and listings of the claims.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A server for making it possible for a remote client, the client being of a plurality of clients to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the plurality of clients via the communication medium, said server comprising:

an input device, adapted to enter selectively a first request or a second request generated by a user different from any one of the plurality of clients, the first request being for acquiring information identifying the plurality of clients to which the video information captured by the image sensing device is transferred, and the second request being for acquiring information identifying the remote client to which [[has]] said server gives a control privilege to control the optical system and orientation of the image sensing device remotely and exclusively; and

a notification device, responsive to the entered request, adapted to report the information identifying the plurality of clients or the remote client to the user.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, wherein control of the image sensing device includes optical control and orientation control.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, wherein said input device includes:

a voice input unit; and
a recognition unit, adapted to recognize a voice input by said voice input unit.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, wherein the information reported by said notification device includes user names of connected clients.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A server according to claim 1 or 6, wherein said notification device reports by voice.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client, the client being of a plurality of clients to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the plurality of clients via the communication medium, said method comprising:

an input step, of selectively entering a first request or a second request, generated by a user different from any one of the plurality of clients, the first request being for acquiring information identifying the plurality of clients to which the video

information captured by the image sensing device is transferred, and the second request being for acquiring information identifying the remote client to which has the server gives a control privilege to control the optical system and orientation of the image sensing device the image sensing device remotely and exclusively; and

a notification step, performed in response to the entered request, of reporting the information identifying the plurality of clients or the remote client to the user.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method according to claim 8, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A storage medium storing program code executing a method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client, the client being of a plurality of clients to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the plurality of clients via the communication medium, said program code comprising:

code for an input step, of selectively entering a first request or a second request, generated by a user different from any one of the plurality of clients, the first request being for acquiring information identifying the plurality of clients to which the video information captured by the image sensing device is transferred, and the second request being for acquiring information identifying the remote client to which has the server gives a control privilege to control the optical system and orientation of the image sensing device the image sensing device remotely and exclusively; and

code for a notification step, of, responsive to the entered request, reporting the information identifying the plurality of clients or the remote client to the user.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A storage medium according to claim 10, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A system comprising at least one remote client terminal connected to a communication medium, and a server for making it possible for said remote client terminal, the remote client terminal being of a plurality of client terminals, to control an image sensing device via the communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the [[the]] plurality of client terminals via the communication medium, said server comprising:

an input device, adapted to enter selectively a first request or a second request, generated by a user different from the any one of the plurality of client terminals, the first request being for acquiring information identifying the client terminal terminals to which the video information captured by the image sensing device is transferred, and the second being for acquiring information identifying the remote client terminal to which [[has]] said server gives a control privilege to control the optical system and orientation of the image sensing device remotely and exclusively, and

a notification device, responsive to the entered request, adapted to report the information identifying the plurality of client terminals or the remote client terminal to the user.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A system according to claim 12, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A server for making it possible for a remote client to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, said server comprising:

a storage device, adapted to store information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

an input device, adapted to enter a request, generated by a user different from the client, for status information regarding the image sensing device; and

a notification device, adapted to extract from said storage device, responsive to the entered request, information relating to an object whose image is being sensed by the image sensing device, and [[reporting]] to report the extracted information to the user.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A server according to claim 14, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A server according to claim 14, wherein control of the image sensing device includes optical control and orientation control.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A server according to claim 14, wherein said input device includes:

a voice input unit; and
a recognition unit, adapted to recognize a voice input by said voice input unit.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A server according to claim 14, wherein said notification device reports by voice.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, comprising:

a storage step, of storing, in a prescribed storage device, information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

an input step, of entering a request, generated by a user different from the client, for status information regarding the image sensing device; and

a notification step, performed in response to the entered request, of extracting, from the storage device, information relating to an object whose image is being sensed by the image sensing device, and reporting the extracted information to the user.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method according to claim 19, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A storage medium storing program code executing a method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, said program comprising:

code for a storage step, of storing information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

code for an input step, of entering a request, generated by a user different from the client, for status information regarding the image sensing device; and

code for a notification step, of, responsive to the entered request, of for extracting information relating to an object whose image is being sensed by the image sensing device, and reporting the extracted information to the user.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A storage medium according to claim 21, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A system comprising at least one client terminal connected to a communication medium, and a server for making it possible for said client terminal to control an image sensing device via the communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via communication medium, said server including:

 a storage device, adapted to store information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

 an input device, adapted to enter a request, generated by a user different from the client, for status information regarding the image sensing device; and

 a notification device, responsive to the entered request adapted to extract, from said storage device, information relating to an object whose image is being sensed by the image sensing device, and reporting to report the extracted information to the user.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A system according to claim 23, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A server for making it possible for a remote client to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, said server comprising:

a storage device, adapted to store information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

an input device, adapted to enter a desired position in video being captured by the image sensing device ; and

a notification device, adapted to extract from said storage device, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered by said input device, and reporting to report the extracted information.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A server according to claim 25, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A server according to claim 25, wherein said input device enters coordinate data that has been designated by the client.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A server according to claim 25 or 27, wherein said notification device reports to the client.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A client connected to said server described in claim 25, comprising:

 a display unit, adapted to display video transferred from said server;
 a designation unit, adapted to designate a desired position in the displayed video;
 a supply unit, adapted to supply the input device of said server with information representing the position designated by said designation unit; and
 an output unit for receiving and outputting information reported to it by said notification device of said server.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method of controlling a server for making it possible for a remote client to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, said method comprising:

 a storage step, of storing, in a prescribed storage device, information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;
 an input step, of entering a desired position in video being captured by the image sensing device; and
 a notification step, of extracting, from the storage device, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered in said input step, and reporting to report the extracted information.

Claim 31 (previously presented): A method according to claim 30, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A storage medium storing program code which, by being read in and executed by a computer, functions as a server for making it possible for a remote client to control an image sensing device via a communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, said program comprising:

code for a storage step, of storing, in a prescribed storage device, information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

code for an input step, of entering a desired position in video being captured by the image sensing device; and

code for a notification step, of extracting, from said means device, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered in said input step, and reporting the extracted information.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A storage medium according to claim 32, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A system comprising at least one client terminal connected to a communication medium and a server for making it possible for said

client terminal to control an image sensing device via the communication medium and for controlling to transfer video information, which has been captured by the image sensing device, to the client via the communication medium, said server including:

a storage device, adapted to store information relating to objects in a zone within which images can be sensed by controlling the sensing direction of the image sensing device;

an input device, adapted to enter a desired position in video being captured by the image sensing device; and

a notification device, adapted to extract from said storage device, information relating to an object corresponding to the position entered by said input device, and reporting to report the extracted information.

Claim 35 (previously presented): A system according to claim 34, wherein the image sensing device is a camera having a two-dimensional image sensing device.